

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 /063 W

-----082316 261530Z /44

O P 261428Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1765
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO JCS WASHDC PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USDELMC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES PRIORITY
DIRNSA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6951

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, GR, US
SUBJ: U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT: COMMUNIQUE AND
OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO CONCLUDING ROUND

REF: A) STATE 173031 (DTG 231550Z JUL 77) B) ATHENS 6814
(DTG 211533Z JUL); C) ATHENS 6833 (DTG 221131Z JUL)

1. I MET WITH CHRYSOSPATIS ON JULY 26 TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF
THE INITIALING CEREMONY AT 11:15 A.M. JULY 28 AND ISSUANCE OF
COMMUNIQUE SHORTLY THEREAFTER. THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE COVERED:

2. COMMUNIQUE: CHRYSOSPATIS, AFTER CHECKING WITH BITSIOS, AGREED
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TO CHANGES IN COMMUNIQUE PROPOSED BY REF A WITH THE FOLLOWING
MINOR ADDITIONAL CHANGES: (A) LAST TWO WORDS SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM
"RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS" TO "TWO COUNTRIES", SINCE IN GOG VIEW IT
IS THE COUNTRIES AND NOT GOVERNMENTS WHICH APPLY RELEVANT LEGAL
PROCEDURES. WHILE THIS MAY OR MAY NOT BE ACCURATE, I DO NOT THINK
IT MAKES ANY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, AND I RECOMMEND WE ACCEPT THIS
CHANGE. (B) CHRYSOSPATIS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IN MIDDLE OF PARA-

GRAPH 2 FOLLOWING MY DESIGNATION AS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES THE PHRASE BE CHANGED FROM "OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY" TO "OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" BEFORE "IN GREECE." THIS IS THE WAY THE GREEK TEXT WILL READ, AND GOG DOES NOT REALLY CARE WHAT PHRASE WE USE BUT SUGGESTED THE ABOVE FOR CONSISTENCY. AGAIN, I SEE NO PROBLEM WITH THEIR PROPOSED CHANGE.

3. CHRYSOPATHIS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PROCEDURE, THE GREEK TRANSLATION OF THE COMMUNIQUE WOULD LIST HIM FIRST AND ME SECOND, WHILE THE ENGLISH VERSION WOULD BE THE REVERSE. I INDICATED NO OBJECTION.

4. GOG PLANS TO ISSUE TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE TO PRESS FOR RELEASE AT 1300 LOCAL TIME (1100Z) JULY 28. U.S. SHOULD ALSO EMBARGO TEXT UNTIL THAT TIME. I TOLD CHRYSOPATHIS I DID NOT KNOW HOW WASHINGTON PLANNED TO HANDLE THE COMMUNIQUE BUT ASSUMED WE WOULD DO AS WAS DONE IN OCTOBER 1976, I.E. HAVE TEXT AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON AND AT USIS HERE SO THAT U.S. CAN CONFIRM ISSUANCE OF COMMUNIQUE BY GOG AFTER EMBARGO TIME. PLEASE ADVISE US IF WASHINGTON WISHES TO HANDLE COMMUNIQUE DIFFERENTLY.

5. PRESS INQUIRIES: HAVING SAID THAT DESPITE THE PROBLEMS CREATED FOR US, WE WOULD NOT INSIST ON A PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT, I REITERATED THAT USG INTENDED, IF ASKED BY PRESS, TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE ANTICIPATE A CONCLUDING MEETING IN THE NEAR FUTURE. CHRYSOPATHIS RESPONDED THAT POLICYMAKERS OF GOG WOULD BE GREATLY TROUBLED IF THIS

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SITUATION AROSE, SINCE THEY WANT NO REPEAT NO ADVANCE INDICATION THAT INITIALING WILL SOON TAKE PLACE. CHRYSOPATHIS ARGUED STRONGLY THAT UMS. SHOULD REPLY WITH "NO COMMENT" IF SUCH QUESTIONS WERE ASKED IN NEXT 48 HOURS. ANY OTHER REPLY WOULD COMPEL GOG TO MAKE ADVANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WHICH IT WOULD FIND DIFFICULT TO DO. I SAID THAT WE HAD BACKED OFF AS FAR AS WE POSSIBLY COULD ON THIS ISSUE WHICH, IN ANY CASE, WOULD PROBABLY NOT ARISE, BUT I WOULD TRY ONE MORE TIME TO CONVINCE DEPARTMENT TO SAY "NO COMMENT" IF ASKED.

6. ADVISING CONGRESS: I INFORMED CHRYSOPATHIS THAT WE INTENDED TO ADVISE SELECTED MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS CONFIDENTIALLY THAT WE WERE PREPARING FOR A FINAL MEETING AND COMMUNIQUE BUT WERE HOPING TO DELAY THIS NOTIFICATION UNTIL WEDNESDAY TO MINIMIZE RISK OF LEAKS. CHRYSOPATHIS RECOGNIZED THIS AS AN INTERNAL USG NECESSITY WHICH HE HOPED WOULD NOT RESULT IN PREMATURE LEAK.

7. INFORM NATO: I SUGGESTED THAT, AS IN THE PAST (SEE NATO 7083, NOTAL) THE GREEK DELEGATE TO NATO CIRCULATE COMMUNIQUE TO ALLIES SHORTLY BEFORE ITS PUBLIC RELEASE. AFTER CHECKING WITH BITSIOS, CHRYSOPATHIS RESPONDED THAT GOG WOULD INSTRUCT ITS ACTING PERMREP TO MAKE COMMUNIQUE AVAILABLE TO OTHER DELEGATIONS, BUT NOT BEFORE

TEXT IS RELEASED IN ATHENS, I.E. 1200 NOON BRUSSELS TIME. WHEN I COUNTERED THAT THIS WAS NOT REALLY "ADVANCE NOTIFICATION", CHRYSOSPATIS SAID BITSIOS WOULD NOT BEND ON THIS OR OTHER QUESTIONS OF TIMING, AND IN ANY CASE THIS WOULD INFORM ALLIED GOVERNMENTS BEFORE THEY HEAR ABOUT COMMUNIQUE IN NEWSPAPERS.

8. REQUESTED ACTIONS: A) APPROVAL TELEPHONICALLY BY COB JULY 27 OF REVISED COMMUNIQUE AND PROCEDURES FOR ISSUANCE, OR DEPARTMENT'S DESIRES IN THE MATTER; B) RECONSIDERATION OF OUR INTENTION TO RESPOND TO PRESS INQUIRIES BY INDICATING WE ANTICIPATE A FINAL MEETING SOON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, COMMUNIQUE, NEGOTIATIONS
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Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 173031, 77 ATHENS 6814
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1754027
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT: COMMUNIQUE AND OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO CONCLUDING ROUND
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, GR, US
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70030e64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009